IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title insert:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/009,033.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention--.

Page 1, first paragraph, amend as follows:

--The invention relates to a device for activating an opening mechanism and/or a closing mechanism for lockable moving parts on vehicles. The device includes a manual actuator which, upon its actuation, acts on a switch ~~of the kind mentioned in the preamble of claim 1. Accordingly, a manual actuator is provided in the motor vehicle. Upon its actuation the switch is acted on~~ and switches on a drive for opening or closing the movable vehicle part. Such a drive can belong to a closure which is embodied as a rotary latch. The rotary latch is secured by a locking pawl in the locking position and, upon activating the actuator, is transferred into an opening position. Such a device is, for example, used at the rear hatch of a motor vehicle.

Page 1, before second paragraph insert:

--2. Description of the Related Art--.

Page 2, change the second paragraph to read:

--Moreover, in devices of the kind mentioned above ~~in the preamble of claim 1~~, further decorative elements, ~~as mentioned in the preamble of claim 2,~~ can be provided before, on and/or within the outer skin of the vehicle which serve for embellishing or provide a visual information content. A typical example for this is a company emblem.--

Page 5, before the second paragraph, insert:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Change the second paragraph to read:

--The invention has the object to provide a reliable device of the kind mentioned above ~~in the preamble of claim 1 or 2~~ which is of an inexpensive configuration and is easy to manipulate. ~~This is achieved, under consideration of the measures mentioned in the preamble, by the measures named in claim 1 as well as claim 2, which have the following special meaning.~~--

Change the third paragraph to read:

--The invention has recognized that either the outer skin of the vehicle or the decorative element seated on the exterior skin of the vehicle can take over the further novel functions of being the actuator for the switch. According to a first embodiment ~~claim 1~~, a portion of the car body itself is used as an actuator for the switch. The car body is comprised generally of sheet metal. The wall thickness of the car body cannot be compressed but is rigid by nature. The invention suggests to size a car body portion so large relative to the supported neighboring areas of the car body that this portion can be pushed inwardly from an initial position by a certain travel stroke to form a dent. This dent is used for actuating a switch. The car body is outwardly smooth within this dented portion, requires no holes and no insert parts. It is sufficient to arrange the contact maker of the switch either directly or indirectly in the yielding path of the car body portion. Since holes are no longer present in the car body, there are no sealing problems and there is no risk of soiling.-

Page 6, change the second paragraph to read:

--In an analog way, according to another embodiment ~~claim 2~~, a portion of the decorative element is the actuator for the switch without this requiring special measures. The provided configuration of the decorative element in the form of stays and intermediate penetrations is used. Such stays result because of the decorative function or its information contents upon which the decorative element is based, for

xample, by the lines of a letter. The invention has recognized that the stays generate the elastic yielding in a certain portion of the decorative element and that this area is especially suitable in order to serve as an actuator for the switch. At most, separating cuts or weakening of these stays must be additionally provided. These separating cuts and weakened areas do not interfere with the decorative function nor do they change the information content; for example, a letter remains easily readable even when the line forming its stay has a small gap. The gap transforms the stay into a bar which is fastened at one end and free at the other end which upon pressure exertion can be easily bent. Accordingly, numerous components, which were otherwise required for an actuator positioned underneath the decorative element, are no longer needed. Moreover, the decorative element as a whole must not at all change its initial position in order to trigger the actuator. It is sufficient to push the respective stay of the decorative element in order to obtain the desired switch actuation.--

Page 7, after the first paragraph insert:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

Page 8, before the last paragraph insert:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--;

Page 11, amend the last paragraph to read:

--The actuator for the switch in the present case is a company

mblem 25 with a circular contour 24 which has an elastically deformable portion 23. The company emblem 25 has a logo which is comprised of several stays 23, 27. The stays 23, 27 fulfill a certain decorative function and can also provide a visual information content and can be comprised of letters and/or an image. Between the stays there are penetrations. In the present embodiment there is even a separating cut 26 between two stays 23, 27 which make one stay 23 flexible. The stay 23 [[,]] is fast at one end in the circumferential area 24, but is flexible at its oppositely positioned free end 28. The stay 23 ~~fast and~~ fulfills the function of a flexible bar. It is deformed in the direction of arrow 20'' of Fig. 4 relative to the neighboring stay 27, which is in itself rigid, toward the switch 12 and reaches the position 23'. This is illustrated in Fig. 4 by the deformation travel 29. The company emblem is integrated into a neighboring area 22 of the car body.--

Page 13, amend the first paragraph to read:

--When the force exertion 20 of Fig. 4 is finished, the elasticity within the company emblem 25 ensures that the car body location returns from its actuating position 23' again into its initial position ~~23~~ of Fig. 3. This restoring movement can be supported, if needed, also by additional elastic means such as leaf spring. Normally, this is not required, in particular, because the membrane 33 has a certain restoring elasticity. The membrane 33 has in fact the tendency to return into the curved position illustrated in Fig. 3 which is its stable state.--

Page 14, amend the second paragraph to read:

--The insert 37 on the other hand remains stationary. It forms the inner layer of this modular unit 21, is comprised of elastomeric material, and is seated in a cutout 32 of the outer skin 40. This inner layer 37 forms an elastic seal and has a central dome 38 in front of the contact maker 13 of a switch 12 which is seated on the support 36. In a spaced position according to Fig. 7, a closing cylinder 48, which in an emergency situation allows for a key actuation of the rear hatch lock, is accessible through an opening 39 in the inner layer 37. The closing cylinder 48 is mounted on the support 36. On the support 36 <u>two</u> levers 47 are connected at 49. The levers 47 support the attachment 50.--

Page 17, amend the first paragraph to read:

--The device according to Fig. 3 to 5 could also be integrated as an immobile attachment 50 or as an insert into the outer skin 40 when the function of a hand grip according to Fig. 5 is not to be utilized. In this case, the grip plate 53 and the lever ~~57~~ <u>47</u> can be eliminated. However, the outer layer 51 as the company emblem remains in place behind which sealing layers 52 and/or 37 are positioned and which acts through the actuating pressure 20 according to Fig. 4 in the already described way on the contact member 13 of the switch 12.--

Delete pages 20 - 22.